

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/847,660	MOK ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	XUAN M. THAI	2111	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on May 4, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 03 May 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☒ None    of the:
  1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

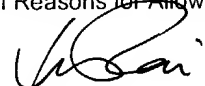
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ol> |
|---|--|

  
 XUAN M. THAI  
 Primary Examiner  
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### REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

This is in response to amendments filed on May 04, 2004. Claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicants claim a method and apparatus of connecting SONET/SDH termination devices with payload processing devices, comprising: (a) providing a transmit interface operative to receive incoming SONET/SDH signal streams and convert said SONET/SDH signal streams into outgoing low voltage differential signal (LVDS) levels with said SONET/SDH signal streams mapped into 8B/10B control characters so as to label SONET/SDH frame boundaries; and (b) providing a receive interface operative to receive incoming LVDS signal levels and convert said LVDS signal levels into outgoing SONET/SDH signal streams with decoding of said 8B/10B control characters labeling SONET/SDH frame boundaries into SONET/SDH control signals (claims 1 and 11). Prior art do not disclose or make obvious the claimed method and apparatus including the combination of a received and transmit interfaces to convert LVDS to SONET/SDH and vice versa with decode of 8B/10B control characters labeling SONET/SDH frame boundaries into SONET/SDH control signals and encode the SONET/SDH streams mapped into 8B/10B control characters to label SONET/SDH frame boundaries. Applicants' arguments with respect to Tayloe et al. (USPN 6,157,638), Johnson et al. (USPN 6,498,792) and Widner (8B/10B Transmission Code) have been considered and deemed to be persuasive. Hence, claims 1 and 11 are allowed. Claims 2-10 and 12-20 are allowed for the same reasons stated with respect to claims 1 and 11, since they are dependent on the respective independent claims.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to XUAN M. THAI whose telephone number is 703-308-2064. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on 703-305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



XUAN M. THAI  
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XMT